HB 808 -- TEACHING CERTIFICATES

SPONSOR: Funderburk

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Elementary and Secondary Education by a vote of 16 to 4.

Currently, the State Board of Education issues a teaching certificate based on certification by the American Board for Certification of Teaching Excellence (ABCTE). The authorization for this type of certificate expires August 28, 2014. This bill extends the date to August 28, 2020.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that since ABCTE certification was authorized in Missouri, it has attracted mature adults who want to stay in their community. No ABCTE license holders appeared in a review of problematic cases.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Funderburk; Frank Atkisson, American Board for Certification of Teacher Excellence, Inc.; Mike Lodewegen, School Administrators Coalition; and Cooperating School Districts of Greater Kansas City.

OPPONENTS: Those who oppose the bill say that we don't know enough from the teacher preparation surveys to justify an extension of the sunset.

Testifying against the bill was Missouri National Education Association.